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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Fumio KURIYAMA et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0318A  
Filed March 13, 2006 :

PLATING METHOD AND APPARATUS  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/014698  
Filed September 29, 2004]

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Prior to examination of the instant application, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks as follows: